

From: [Tad Slawecki](#)
To: [Delta Council Science](#)
Subject: Comments on Second Draft Delta Science Plan
Date: Monday, September 16, 2013 1:35:16 PM

To whom it may concern,

We are submitting the following written comments related to the Second Draft Delta Science Plan published August 22, 2013.

1. The document overall is a well-written vision for the proper integration of science into high-stakes decision-making, and we look forward to the adoption and implementation of the finalized Delta Science Plan

2. Chapter 3. ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT FOR A COMPLEX SYSTEM, page 17, line 1, Figure 3-1:

We suggest that the first step under "Evaluate and Respond" that starts "Analyze data, synthesize ..." should include a post-audit of models used for decision on sections -- comparing model prediction against actual system response to action. Models can then be evaluated and improved for further adaptive management cycles.

3. Chapter 4. BUILDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SCIENCE, heading "4.3. Data Management and Accessibility", subheading "Actions", Action 4.3.1 "Data Summit", page 27, lines 31-35.

We feel that outcomes of the Data Summit can greatly inform aspects of Monitoring and Associated Research, particularly Action 4.2.1, "Support and sustain a web-based information system for monitoring activities". The organization of the current draft Plan may lead readers to assume that (e.g.) Action 4.2.1 necessarily precedes Action 4.3.1 when both actions may in fact be concurrent and iteratively interact. If the Plan authors agree with this viewpoint, we suggest adding either specific text indicating the interaction between Actions 4.2.1 and 4.3.1, or a general comment explaining that the numbering of actions does not necessarily indicate sequencing.

4. Chapter 4. BUILDING THE INFRASTRUCTURE FOR SCIENCE, heading "4.4. Shared Modeling", subheading "Problem", page 29, lines 18-22 **AND** subheading "Actions", Action 4.4.4 "Embrace alternative modeling approaches", page 30, lines 21-24:

We suggest the consideration here of open, ensemble modeling -- one of best ways to identify model conceptualization and parameterization uncertainties.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

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